

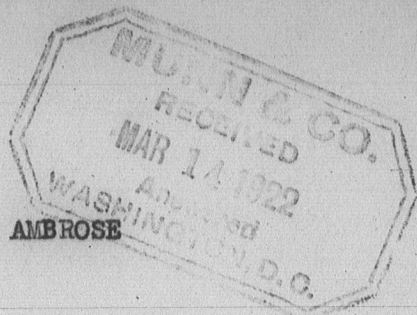
APR -1 1922 ✓

©CLM

2127 C

PIONEER DAYS OF THE WEST

1849 to 1921 ✓



Taken from a true story and actual facts, written by C. A. AMBROSE

Picture starts from Iowa in 1849.

It was in the year, 1849, at Dubuque, Iowa-----scene of small farm

with four or five people, chickens, pigs, horses, etc.---

Gold had been discovered in California a year before (1848) and there was the biggest rush to cross the plains from the east that was ever known. One young man at this farm, ~~named~~ named Nicholas, had made up his mind to go to California and was telling his family about it.

The start was made----- (picture of teams and wagons) ---The party crosses the plain and has many troubles, some of which may be filmed at a later date; but this picture will take him and his companions as far as the Carson river in what is now known as Nevada. He decides to remain here and stakes out a squatter's claim of land at this point, then goes on to California, gets provisions and supplies and comes back and starts a trading station.

(Picture shows what the old pioneers saw)

Nicholas settles here, locates a ranch in addition to the trading post.

(Picture shows this ranch)

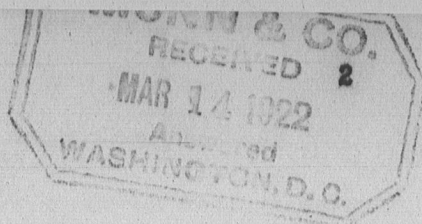
(Cut back shows a town in Illinois where a young girl is joining another party westward bound, with scenes along the route until the girl arrives in Nevada and reaches the trading post established by Nick.)

One of the party gets sick and the company is compelled to stop at Nick's station for two months. Result, Nick and the girl fall in love with each other and determine to marry; but, owing to the absence of minister, priest or judge, they are obliged to wait until a Mormon elder travels that way and he performs the ceremony.

(Picture of wedding)

Cut back to ^{SSCI 1-87A} Emigrant Trail where another party of emigrants is making its way

PIONEER DAYS



west. Among the party is another beautiful girl.

Picture shows party being attacked by band of Indians.

Everyone but the girl is killed and burned, but the beautiful girl, named Susan, is captured and taken up on the bluff 400 feet high.

Scene shows the bluff where a bench runs along near the top, from which are seen four caves.

Shows Susan being taken into cave. Indian dance.

~~Next~~ scene shows Susan jumping from the bluff, 400 feet

to her death, rather than to remain with the savages.

Next scene shows Comstock discovering the Comstock lode in 1859. Nick has been there and has seen the various ways of obtaining gold from the earth at that early date, all of which are shown on the screen.

Time is now 1860.

Nick's wife

Piute Indian war breaks out and the next scene shows Nick and two small children horseback, riding as fast as the horse can go from Nick's Station to Genoa, at ^{the} ~~this~~ time the only town between Salt Lake City and Sacramento. Nick stays to defend his station.

Scene also shows the place near Genoa where it is supposed that Gen. John C. Fremont was camped in 1843 and where his Indians left him rather than cross the Sierra Nevada mountains to Sacramento in winter. Fremont continued on over one ^{snow} hundred of feet and reached Sacramento in six weeks time.

Scene shows Indians killing Major Ormsby, Major Storey and Captain Allen, and 102 others, besides burning houses, stealing stock and committing other depredations.

1862.

Scene shows a gambler and a beautiful girl walking down Carson street in Carson City. They meet a waiter standing by a hotel. This waiter is also in love with the girl. The first two pass him and the jealous waiter while serving at the table where the gambler is seated, manages to slip and spill the contents of his tray,

soup, coffee, dishes and other food, over the gambler and ruin his clothes. The gambler grapps a cup and smashes it in the waiter's face, who falls unconscious. Gambler leaves the room and when the waiter regains consciousness he swears to kill the gambler on sight.

Six months elapse.

The gambler is seen sitting in a chair tipped back against the wall of the ~~Brmsby~~ ~~Brmsby~~ hotel bar-room. The waiter gets his gun and is shown approaching the gambler who is not aware of his presence. The waiter opens fire and shoots the gambler in the stomach, then walks out a back door and closes the door after him. The gambler topples to the floor but in his dying moments contrives to shoot through the door and kill the waiter. Both victims are laid upkn the billiard table and the girl comes in to view the two men who loved her so ardently.

Screen shows the first ^{railroad} ~~fire~~ engine which arrived in Carson City in 1869.

1871.

^a ^{occurred}
Sept. 13, 1871, ~~xx~~ serious break ~~occurred~~ at the state prison a mile and a half from Carson City. Screen shows this break with twenty-nine prisoners escaping all of whom, excepting four of the most desperate ones, were recaptured in a few days. These four make their way to the Carson river where two men live in a small cabin. One of the men is forced to dress a shotgun wound in the leg of one of the convicts. After getting food and clothing the leave but resolve to go back and kill the man at the cabin, the other resident having made his escape and run three miles to Empire, a mill town on the river. In the meantime, the owner of the cabin has locked and barricaded his door and threatens to shoot the first man that approaches. The convicts finally leave him alone. The next day the convicts meet a man coming from the mountains with a wagon-load of wood, drawn by four horses. Scene shows the convicts taking the man from the wagon-seat and tying him straddle of one of the wagon wheel hubs, with his arms and legs lashed to the spokes of the wheel. The convict take a horse each and ride away. The man is found late that day by friends.

The convicts remain at large for some time committing all sorts of desperate deeds, killing an old man who had fed them bountifully and furnished them with provisions; and at one place one of the convicts kills one of his party, leaving three only. One prisoner is captured and the last two increase their depredations until a large reward is offered for their capture. Two men resolve to get the reward and have gone u into Woodford's canyon in search of them. While camped for the night the two convicts appear and make the campers divide food and beds with them. The convict-hunters do not seem anxious to capture the murderers who leave the next morning. As soon as it is safe to leavethe camp, the two men gather a posse and run the convicts down, finally hanging them from the top of a barn. One of the convicts weakens and the hangmen are compelled to push him along the beam and off the end; The other convict curses him -4- ; he will show the crowd how a brave man dies. He then places the rope around h -4-; runs and leaps from the end of the beam and breaks his neck.

Next scene shows a bucking, wild horse or two, also a prize fight scene.

has grown old and his fmaily has reached manhood and womanhood, and he dies peacefully in his own bed.

~~1921~~ 1921.

The tourist with the automobile is shown and a train trip is taken to Virginia City, beginning at the depot at Carson City, where the screen shows the train pulling out, headed for the river canyons and the mountain sides. Down the track to Empire where the Mexican mill still stands (titles explain about ^{then} this mill when erected, etc.); on down the Carson river to the Morgan mill, the Brunswick mill, with wild and beautiful scenery, on one of the crookedest railroads in existence; past twelve more mills---Merrimac, Vivian, Santiago, Eureka, Franklin, Esmeralda, Ophir, Rocky Point, and Lyon---then up past the Mound House, where the gypsum plant is working and snowsheds ceaselessly; through the tunnel/to American City, ~~thru the tunnel~~ where the new Comstock is attracting world-wide attention; through four tunnels to Virginia City under which lie six hundred miles of tunnels and drifts. C street, Virginia City,

is shown, old court house, old opera house, residence of ex-Senator James G. Fair (one of the early millionaires of the Comstock), home of John W. Mackey, also a pioneer millionaire; then down the famous mines. The great mills with their ponderous smokestacks and ore dumps are shown and then the trip is made down into the mine on a cage to a depth of at least 2500 feet; the timbering is shown and the miners at work with their picks and shovels and drills. The journey continues on out through the Sutro tunnel which drains the mines from the 1650 foot-level where the immense dynamos, cars, fire-fighting apparatus and other items of interest are screened.

Then back to Gold Hill where Sandy Bowers made his fortune and up Mt. Davidson, on whose side Virginia City is perched. Thence down to Gold canyon where \$20,000,000.00 was sluiced out by the old methods (which are shown on the screen)

now the modern dredger is used to regain all that was lost---picture of dredger and new way of sluicing gold.-----and which handles 7000 tons of dirt daily. Then down to Dayton which was the county seat of Lyon county for many years and which is one of the earliest Nevada towns.

Then down the Carson river to Clifton where the maiden Susan jumped over the cliff 400 ft to get away from the Indians. Thence down to Fort Churchill where the walls of the old fort are still standing and where one of the fiercest Indian wars was fought in 1860. Then, out through the forty-mile desert where it is twenty miles to water in any direction; then the pony express rider stations of 1863; then to Lake Lahontan where the government reclamation project is storing water for the reclamation of 240,000 acres of land; a beautiful sunset view on this lake is shown.

The screen then show Reno, Nevada's metropolis, and one of the most noted towns in the United States. The front of the Masonic Temple is shown. The street is crowded as the returns of the world series of baseball are displayed. Out of the Temple appears a band, headed by a large bear and followed by the Mystic Shriners

dressed up in their new uniforms. A parade follows and they finally board the train for a pilgrimage to California.

The greatest and most unique room in the west is next shown. It shows 160 different kinds of musical instruments, made from evrything imaginable. A man is shown pldying eight different instruments at once.

The airplane is here show, changing mail.

We then return to Carson City and view the old opera house, which is now used as a licture show house; see the dwelling erected by Orion Clemens, brother of Mark Twain, where Mark always made his home when in Carson City; the house where ~~xxxxxxx~~ James W. Nye lived while he was Nevada's first governor; the house where Gov. Bradley lived and then the present mansion inhabited by Gov. E. D. Boyle; out to the cemetery where lies buried the famous stage driver, Hank Monk, who gave Horace Greeley his memorable ride to Pacerville and where the soldier's ~~cemeter~~ ins the bodies of the 102 soldiers who were killed by the Indians in 1860 as well as the veterans of the civil war.

Back in Carson City again we see the streets decorated for Pioneer Day, and the shop windows decorated with relics of the olden days. We pass the U. S. Mint, opened in 1870, and prominent buildings until we reach the state capitol, where Gov. E. D. Boyle extends a welcoming hand to the pioneers. Supreme Justice Sanders W. U. Mackey, former Mayor George Gillson and others make brief speehhes. W. M. Lynch, valet to Vice President Andrew Johnson adn who shaved him preparatory to Johnson's taking the oath of office as president of the United States upon the death of Lincoln, supposed to be over a hundred years old; Hong, a Chinese plaster worker who mixed the mortar used in constructing the stone building occupied by the U. S. Mint, over a hundred years old; Zachary Taylor Wilcox, a civil war veteran, with a beard twelve and a half feet long; ^{Mr. Vanblaircom} the only pony express rider now living, and who was one of the most daring riders of 1863, are all screened.

Robert Fulstone, Andrew Maute, Chauncey Dake, Dr. J. M. Benton, Henry Bath and others who came to Carson City before 1864 were introduced to the crowd and filmed in characteristic attitudes.

Then the big event of the day takes place---the Pioneer Parade. The Governor's Staff heads the procession, followed by the Eagle's Band; fraternal orders come next trailed by an old prospector with his burro; stage coach; wagon that crossed the plains in 1858; a man and his wife that walked across the plains with their worldly goods in a wheelbarrow; eight large mules drawing two large freight wagons, and driven by Ira Lee Winters who manipulated the "jerk line" in true pioneer fashion; old-fashioned buggies, caissons, coupes, buckboards, sleighs; ladies in old-fashioned riding habits riding ways on horseback followed by ladies in modern riding togs riding astride; man a boy playing an accordion; model of airplane constructed by fourteen-foot, the oldest automobile, first rubber tire in Nevada, and automobiles of the latest and most approved models; the first fire brigade when ordinary water buckets were passed from one man to another; sixteen firemen with fire-fighting machine used in San Francisco in 1850 and later sold to a fire company in Carson City; a second fire cart bought in 1862, manned by sixteen men; the steamer S. T. Swift, used for several years beginning with 1874; and finally the modern chemical engine and hose cart; an Indian brass band of 32 pieces heading a military company of Indian cadets and two companies of Indian girls, drilling and marching with wonderful precision;

Picture concludes with 1921 flying machine, the landing field bound for California

*C. A. Ambrose
Carson City
Nevada.*

This document is from the Library of Congress
“Motion Picture Copyright Descriptions Collection,
1912-1977”

Collections Summary:

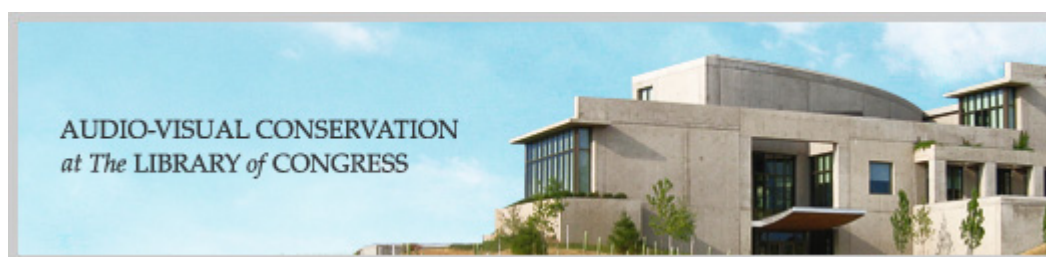
The Motion Picture Copyright Descriptions Collection, Class L and Class M, consists of forms, abstracts, plot summaries, dialogue and continuity scripts, press kits, publicity and other material, submitted for the purpose of enabling descriptive cataloging for motion picture photoplays registered with the United States Copyright Office under Class L and Class M from 1912-1977.

Class L Finding Aid:

<https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mbrsmi/eadmbrsmi.mi020004>

Class M Finding Aid:

<https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mbrsmi/eadmbrsmi.mi021002>



National Audio-Visual Conservation Center
The Library of Congress